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TRANSCRIPTION

May 1, 1984

Dear Mr. East,

On May 18th we shall commemorate the 8th anniversary of the "disappearance" of a young Argentinian family in Montevideo, Uruguay. We are asking for your help in our effort to discover their whereabouts. Permit me to outline the details of the case:

In 1979 Elsa Pavon de Aguiar wrote to Amnesty International from Argentina. She told us of the sad tale of her daughter Monica Grinsponde Logares who had been abducted in Montevideo together with her husband Claudio Ernesto Logares and their baby daughter Paula Eva. The young parents had been working in Uruguay as accountants.

On May 18th 1978, a national holiday in Uruguay, they took their little girl, then 23 months old, to play in a local public park. At 3:30 p.m., in broad daylight they were seized by armed men in civilian clothes and forced into waiting cars which then sped away. They never returned home.

Their friends contacted relatives of the Logares in Buenos Aires in Argentina, who have travelled to Uruguay several times since then to report the "disappearance" and to try to establish the whereabouts of the family. All such efforts have been in vain. The Uruguayan government has refused to acknowledge the arrest of the Logares, claims to have no knowledge of their location or condition, and has made little or no effort to apprehend their abductors.

However, according to several eye-witness reports, civilian personnel, using three cars, had been watching the building where the Logares lived for several days. This patrolling ceased when the family disappeared.

We don't know why the Logares were under surveillance, but we do know that the method of their abduction follows a pattern of repression of dissidents in Uruguay. Political prisoners in that country are ordinarily held incommunicado detention, during which they are subjected to torture, including prolonged standing, "submarina" (submersion in water until nearly drowned), electric shock, and various other forms of severe torture. Amnesty International feared that the Logares

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)

U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS

Margaret P. Grafeld, Director

() Release (X) Excise () Deny

Exemption(s): 66

Declassify: () In Part () In Full

() Classify as () Extend as () Downgrade to

Date _____ Declassify on _____ Reason _____

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family may have died from torture or were being held in secret detention in Uruguay, or were returned to suffer a mililar fate at the hands of the military regime which ruled Argentina at that time. The security forces of both countries had previously co-operated in the abductions of each other's citizens in each other's territory.


The new, democratically elected government in Argentina has set up a special commission to investigate the "disappearance" of perhaps as many as 30,000 of its citizens during the years of military rule. Unfortunately for the Logares family the military, which still controls Uruguay, has rebuffed all attempts by family and friends to discover where they are held.

On this anniversary of their abduction, we are turning to you Mr. East to help us obtain justice for the Logares family.

Would you please contact our embassy in Uruguay and ask the Human Rights officer there, Mr. George M. Staples to look into this case? Could he ask the Uruguan authorities why the Logares family was under surveillance, and why they were arrested? Have they been detailed? If they are not in the custody of official forces, who were there abductors? What progress has the government made in locating the Logares family and apprehending their captors?

Your help on their behalf, Mr. East, would earn the gratitude of the family and friends of this unfortunate family and the thanks of those of us in Asheville who care for them.

Thank you and best wishes,



(Logares Case Co-ordinator)
Amnesty International

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